What is claimed is:

1. An automated data storage library for accessing data storage media in response to commands from at least one external host system, comprising:

a housing unit having at least one access door;

a plurality of storage shelves for storing data storage media within the housing unit;

a data storage drive for reading and/or writing data to/from the data storage media;

a robot accessor for transporting data storage media between the storage shelves and the data storage drive;

a first processor node;

means for activating a library firmware update image in the first processor node;

means for determining a status of the at least one access door; and

means for performing at least a partial inventory of the data storage media if the means for determining a status determines that at least one access door has been opened and/or closed while the library firmware update image was activated.

2. The automated data storage library of claim 1, further comprising:

a second processor node;

means associated with the second processor node for storing a copy of an inventory of the data storage media; and

means for restoring the inventory from the second processor node to the first processor node after the library firmware update has been activated in the first processor node.

3. The automated data storage library of claim 2, further comprising means for activating the library firmware update image in the second processor node after the library firmware update has been activated in the first processor node.

4. The automated data storage library of claim 1, wherein the means for determining a status of the at least one access door comprises a second processor node.

5. The automated data storage library of claim 4, further comprising means for activating the library firmware update image in the second processor node after the library firmware update has been activated in the first processor node.

6. The automated data storage library of claim 1, further comprising means for resetting a door sense circuit prior to activating the firmware update in the first processor node.

7. The automated data storage library of claim 1, wherein the data storage media are members of the type of storage cartridges comprising optical discs, magnetic disks and magnetic tapes.

8. A method for updating a firmware image in an automated data storage library, the automated data storage library for accessing data storage media in response to commands from at least one external host system and having a housing unit having at least one access door, a plurality of storage shelves for storing data storage media within the housing unit, a data storage drive for reading and/or writing data to/from the data storage media, a robot accessor for transporting data storage media between one of the storage shelves and the data storage drive, and a first processor node operating from a current library firmware image, the method comprising:

receiving a library firmware update;

activating the library firmware update image in the first processor node;

determining a status of the at least one access door; and

performing at least a partial inventory of the data storage media if the means for determining a status determines that at least one access door has been opened and/or closed while the library firmware update image was activated.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising:

storing a copy of an inventory of the data storage media with a second processor node; and

restoring the inventory to the first node after the library firmware update has been activated in the first processor node.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising activating the library firmware update

image in the second processor node after the library firmware update has been activated in the first processor node.

11. The method of claim 8, further comprising monitoring the status of the access door by a second processor node.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising activating the library firmware update image in the second processor node after the library firmware update has been activated in the first processor node.

13. The method of claim 8, further comprising resetting a door sense circuit prior to activating the firmware update in the first processor node.

14. A computer program product of a computer readable medium usable with a programmable computer, the computer program product having computer-readable code embodied therein for updating a firmware image in an automated data storage library, the automated data storage library for accessing data storage media in response to commands from at least one external host system and having a housing unit having at least one access door, a plurality of storage shelves for storing data storage media within the housing unit, a data storage drive for reading and/or writing data to/from the data storage media, a robot accessor for transporting data storage media between one of the storage shelves and the data storage drive, and a first processor node operating from a current library firmware image, the computer-readable code comprising

instructions for:

receiving a library firmware update;

activating the library firmware update image in the first processor node;

determining a status of the at least one access door; and

performing at least a partial inventory of the data storage media if the means for determining a status determines that at least one access door has been opened and/or closed while the library firmware update image was activated.

15. The computer program product of claim 14, further comprising instructions for:

storing a copy of an inventory of the data storage media with a second processor node; and

restoring the inventory to the first node after the library firmware update has been activated in the first processor node.

16. The computer program product of claim 15, further comprising instructions for activating the library firmware update image in the second processor node after the library firmware update has been activated in the first processor node.

17. The computer program product of claim 14, further comprising instructions for monitoring the status of the access door by a second processor node.

18. The computer program product of claim 17, further comprising instructions for activating the library firmware update image in the second processor node after the

library firmware update has been activated in the first processor node.

19. The computer program product of claim 14, further comprising instructions for resetting a door sense circuit prior activating the firmware update in the first processor node.